

Message Text

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PAGE 01 VIENNA 04416 311812Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-07 CIAE-00 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-07 NRC-05 OES-07 FEAE-00
DODE-00 ERDA-05 SS-15 AF-10 IOE-00 ARA-06 EA-07
NEA-10 PM-04 H-01 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06
/136 W

-----311835Z 008565 /47

P 311108Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1904
INFO AMCONSUL CAPETOWN PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 4416

USIAEA

DEPT PASS IO/SCT

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP, IAEA (EKLUND, SIGVARD), SF
SUBJECT: IAEA DG EKLUND'S VISIT TO SOUTH AFRICA

REF: (A) IAEA VIENNA 4357, (B) STATE 123863,
(C) STATE 119086

1. I LEFT IAEA BRIEFING FOR CODEL TEAGUE MORNING MAY 28
IN ORDER MEET WITH DG EKLUND IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING HIS
RETURN FROM SOUTH AFRICA.

2. THE DG TOLD ME HEHAD ARRIVED IN SOUTH AFRICA
MAY 25 AND HAD TALKED THAT AFTERNOON WITH MR. ROUX. THE
FOLLOWING MORNING HE HAD A LENGTHY TALK WITH MINISTER OF
MINES BOTHA TO WHOM ROUX REPORTS. HE SAID BOTHA
TOOK A RATHER NEGATIVE STAND ON THE PROPOSAL THAT
SOUTH AFRICA JOIN THE NPT. BOTHA SAID THAT SOUTH AFRICA
WANTED COOPERATE BUT THAT THERE WAS A GREAT DEAL
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OF "HESITANCY" IN THE DIRECTION OF ADHERENCE TO THE NPT
BECAUSE MANY PEOPLE QUESTIONED WHY SOUTH AFRICA SHOULD
MAKE SUCH A MOVE IF IT DIDN'T OBTAIN ANYTHING
IN RETURN.

3. DR. EKLUND SAID HE LUNCHEDED MAY 26 WITH THE MINISTER

OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AS WELL AS THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY FOURIE. THE LATTER HE FELT HAD A VERY STRONG INFLUENCE WITHIN THE SAG AND KNEW THE UN WELL FROM THE TIME THAT HE SERVED AS A MEMBER OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN DELEGATION TO THE UN. THE DG SAID THAT HE TOLD THE FOREIGN MINISTER THAT SOUTH AFRICA SIMPLY COULD NOT APPEAR AT THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING IN JUNE AND SAY NOTHING. HE FELT THEY WOULD BE DESERTED BY THEIR FRIENDS. AT THE VERY LEAST THEY SHOULD SAY THEY ARE STUDYING THE QUESTION OF ADHERENCE TO THE NPT. FOURIE AGREED WITH HIM. IMMEDIATELY BEFORE HE CALLED ON THE PRIME MINISTER, A MEETING WAS HELD IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE OF ALL OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WITH WHOM HE HAD SPOKEN EARLIER. DR. EKLUND BELIEVED FOURIE HAD DONE A GOOD JOB IN THIS MEETING.

4. WHEN HE WALKED INTO THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE VORSTER IMMEDIATELY TURNED TO HIM AND SAID "I UNDERSTAND YOU HAVE A PROPOSAL AND I ACCEPT THAT." WHAT WAS LEFT TO BE RESOLVED WAS THE PRECISE WORDING OF THE PROPOSAL. ITS FORMULATION HAS BEEN LEFT TO FOURIE AND ROUX AND THEY WERE SCHEDULED TO PREPARE A DRAFT ON MAY 29 AND 30 IN IRERIA. THE STATEMENT WILL BE IN THE FORM OF A DECLARATION MADE BY THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT AT THE JUNE BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING OF THE IAEA AND DR. EKLUND BELIEVES AT A MINIMUM THERE WILL BE A STATEMENT TO THE EFFECT THAT "SOUTHAFRICA IS SERIOUSLY STUDYING THE POSSIBILITY OF ADHERENCE TO THE NPT."

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5. DR. EKLUND SAID THAT IT WAS VERY EVIDENT FROM HIS TALKS THAT THE SOUTH AFRICANS ARE FAR MORE CONCERNED ABOUT ASSURED SUPPLIES OF ENRICHED URANIUM FROM THE U.S. THAN THEY ARE ABOUT THE RETENTION OF THEIR SEAT ON THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE IAEA. NINETY-THREE PER CENT ENRICHED FUEL FOR THE SAFARI RESEARCH REACTOR RELOAD IS REQUIRED AND THEY HAVE A CONTRACT WITH THE U.S. FOR FUEL FOR THE KOEBERG REACTORS OF FRENCH ORIGIN. HE SAID THAT IF THE SOUTH AFRICANS COULD BE ASSURED RE FUEL SUPPLY, HE FELT THE SITUATION WOULD BE A VERY DIFFERENT ONE. HE WAS CONVINCED THAT THE OUTCOME OF THE GOVERNMENT'S STUDY ON ADHERENCE TO THE NPT WILL VERY MUCH DEPEND ON THE SORT OF GUARANTEE THEY CAN OBTAIN FROM THE U.S. ON FUEL SUPPLY.

6. COMMENT: EKLUND APPEARED ENCOURAGED BY THE OUTCOME OF HIS VISIT. STONE

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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